Expansion of International Terminal at Chennai Airport

*400. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed expansion at Chennai Airport;

(b) the reasons for the delay in completing the expansion of the Anna International Terminal at Chennai Airport; and

(c) whether there is also any proposal to have a second runway at Chennai Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Extension and modification of Anna International Terminal at Chennai Airport by 24,560 sq. metres at a cost of Rs. 79.66 crores was sanctioned on 29.5.1998 and was expected to be completed by December 2001. The delay in completion is due to the requirement of obtaining environmental clearance, and additional scope of work like changes in layout of conveyor belts requested by Airlines Operators Committee (AOC) at a later stage. With the commissioning of the terminal, the passenger handling capacity would increase from the present 1.5 million to 2.7 million per annum.

There are already two runways at Chennai Airport though at any point of time only one can be used as the two runways intersect each other.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Tiruchirapalli as an International Airport

2669. SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having any proposal to fulfil the repeated assurance of making Tiruchirapalli as an international airport;

(b) if so, the details of action taken to meet its infrastructural requirements; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Tiruchirapalli Airport is a

customs airport with limited international operations. There is no proposal at present to declare the Tiruchirappli airport as an International Airport.

Direct Flights between Hyderabad and London

2670. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether British Airways is contemplating to operate direct flights from Hyderabad to London in near future: and

(b) the number of flights British Airways is operating from India at present with places from where they originate together with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) British Airways is presently operating a total of 18 services/week from Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai to London deploying a total of 5898 seats. Hyderabad is not presently available as a point of call to the British Airways.

Appointment of Traffic Assistants in IA

2671. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of persons appointed as Traffic Assistants in Indian Airlines on the basis of recommendations from Ministers and high officials;

(b) whether any inquiry has been conducted against such matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof with its outcome; and

(d) if not, by when the inquiry report is likely to be presented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Appintments are made as per Recruitment and Promotion Rules of Indian Airlines. No Traffic Assistant has been appointed in Indian Airlines on the basis of recommendations from Ministers and high officials.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.